

GOVERNMENT—NO. V.

considered the proper duties and qualifications of rulers, we could not, in justice, articles, without considering also the obligations of the subjects of the government. In treating this subject, we shall give such a classification of duties as shall present themselves to our mind, and pretend to go into a detailed examination of the dogmas that have been advanced upon this topic. Let us examine, then,

First, the duties of citizens in the choice of civil rulers. Of course this branch of our subject can claim the attention only of citizens of a democratic government—that is, a government where the rulers are servants of, and chosen by, the people. In monarchial, oligarchical, or despotic governments, rank and title are fixed by hereditary right, and the people have no voice in the matter. No responsibility in this choice, and no responsibility of throwing off the government and establishing better.

In democratic, republican governments (and believe all governments ought to be,) the choice of civil rulers is widely different. The choice of civil rulers is the people—the citizen-subjects. Here the people are responsible for the character of the government it may be. As a general thing the ruler will be just what the people would have, or, in other words, their policy will be the popular sentiment. The declaration of a prophet of old in relation to another is equally applicable to the case of civil rulers. They are like people like priests. There are, unfortunately, civil rulers who have moral courage to do right if the popular sentiment is wrong, and there are but few more, however wicked at heart, who dare to do right, and do wrong, when the popular sentiment is in favor of the right, well knowing that the people have the corrective remedy in their hands, and can apply it at the ballot-box.

People, then, in a republican government, are responsible for the character of their rulers, consequently for the mal-administration of bad rulers. If they voluntarily put bad men into power, should they complain when they reap the fruit of their own wickedness in the evils of a mal-administration? They have "sown to the wind, and they shall reap the whirlwind." Why should they not garner the fruit of their own sowing? The duty of a citizen, then, in the choice of rulers, is to select to office men who possess the qualities which we have already noticed as essential to a ruler.

Let us consider the duty of the citizens in the choice of civil government. If a government is to be a government, it is certainly the duty of the citizens to control it.

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teaching of the Bible. But there is another question of some importance here, and which has of late years elicited considerable discussion among politicians and learned doctors of divinity, viz: "in what does the duty of subjection to civil authority consist, and how far does it extend?" In discussing this topic we shall follow our own view of what is plain Bible precept, regardless of the opinions of learned doctors who write and publish elaborate sermons for a consideration of "loaves and fishes."

The citizen's duty of obedience and subjection to civil authority may be divided into active and passive. So far as the enactments of civil rulers are just and equitable—for the honor of God and the good of man—it is the duty of every good citizen to come actively to their support and assist actively in carrying them out. Without this prompt, active co-operation of the citizens with the civil rulers, no government can be efficient, or even respectable for any length of time.

But one will say, perhaps, all this is clear enough—we have no difficulty in understanding what is duty under such circumstances, but how is it when the enactments are contrary to right and justice, and equity—when they dishonor God and oppress man? What is our duty then? Certainly, we answer, obedience, but not active obedience. Here passive obedience is all that a man dare render by his allegiance to Heaven. He dares not do wrong, nor can all the enactments of all the civil governments on earth make it right to do wrong. No civil government can claim an authority above God's authority without downright atheism. Nor can any civil enactment make that right which God has pronounced wrong, or that wrong which he has declared right. As all authority, whether in heaven, earth, or hell, is subject to God's authority, so it is an act of heaven-daring impiety for any government to enact laws abrogating the divine law, or to assume authority above the authority of Omnipotence. No such law—no such assumption of authority, can for a moment bind the consciences of men, or demand their active co-operation. An active obedience to such laws they cannot render without breaking their allegiance to the God before whom they must stand in judgment, and who will hold every man personally and strictly to an account for all his acts.

The duty of the citizen, in such cases, is not violently to resist the law, nor yet actively to assist in carrying out its provisions. His allegiance to God requires him to break the law by refusing to obey its provisions, but his allegiance to government requires also that he should passively suffer the penalty of such disobedience, for it is better at all times, and under all circumstances to suffer physical or pecuniary evil than incur divine displeasure by wrong doing. It was in allusion to this that Jesus Christ said, "fear not them that kill the body, but after that have nothing more they can do, but fear rather him who, after he hath killed the body, hath power to cast both soul and body into hell."

The book of the prophecies of Daniel furnish us with two striking examples just in point here. The three Hebrews, Shadrach, Meshach, and Abednego, as well as Daniel himself, had, in consideration of their wisdom, piety, and integrity, been promoted to office under a pagan government. In all the proper exercises of governmental authority, we presume none were more active or faithful in their duties. This excited the envy of their enemies, who sought the same promotion, who to supplant them concocted a plan which should bring the authority of the civil government in conflict with their religious convictions of duty. They therefore persuaded the unsuspecting king to set up an image, and proclaim as the law of the land, that every one who refused to bow down and worship it should be cast into a fiery furnace. The reply of the three Hebrews on this occasion (Daniel was probably absent from Babylon at the time) is worthy of note. "O Nebuchadnezzar, we are not careful to answer thee in this matter. If it be so, our God whom we serve is able to deliver us from the burning fiery furnace, and he will deliver us out of thine hand, O king. But if not, be it known unto thee, O king, that we will not serve thy gods, nor worship the golden image which thou hast set up." In other words, we will not incur the wrath of God by wrong-doing for the sake of escaping the physical suffering which the penalty of the law inflicts for its violation. In the other case alluded to, the king was persuaded to pass a decree that no one for a certain space of time should make any petition or supplication to any one save the king only, on pain of being cast into the den of lions. The enemies of Daniel, who procured the passage of this decree, knew that Daniel would not quit his religious devotions even for an edict of the king, and they were not disappointed. He chose rather to obey God, continue his devotions, and bear the penalty. The deliverance of the three Hebrews from the fiery furnace, and of Daniel from the den of lions, was God's approbation of their course, sealed in both cases with a miracle.

We might cite also the lives of the Apostles and primitive Christians as abounding in similar examples, and confirming the doctrine that, at no time, under no circumstances, nor for any consideration, can a good man do wrong, even should he be commanded to do so by the civil authorities. His plain duty is to do right, and suffer the penalty.

We have now noticed, as briefly as we well could, what we consider the more prominent duties of the citizens of a government, and we have also concluded the series of essays we proposed to publish on the general subject of Civil Government. There are many, very many, connected with this subject which we have not time to notice, but we have thrown a light upon some of the more important ones, and it is all we can do for our time and trouble.

Calientes of Las Vegas.

The Pacific Rail Road ever being running through New Mexico is destined, we think to be the Saratoga of the Union. The ojos calientes, are situated about the village, upon the pretty little stream of

pure water that flows from the mountains through the valley. We found to our surprise, not one or two springs, as we had supposed, but some six or eight in number, all within the space of perhaps a half acre of ground. The springs are of different temperatures, but all of them too hot for bathing without a previous cooling process, as we rather sorely convinced ourselves. Nor is the same spring always of the same temperature. On one day one spring will be the hottest, and the next some other. From one of the springs minute bubbles of gas, are continually ascending in innumerable multitudes, and around the margin we found a thick and spongy incrustation, tough almost as India-rubber, and apparently charged with the same element.

At one of the springs the lavenderas (washerwomen) of the neighborhood have formed a small reservoir for washing, where we found some of them busily employed. Nature seems to have fitted this place up for their special accommodation. The water from the springs being what is termed "soft," and of boiling temperature, nothing further is needed but to throw in their clothes and commence operation forthwith, the "suds" running off continually from the basin, the water is kept all the time clean by the fresh supply from the spring. When the scouring process is completed, within a few feet of them is the creek, with its plentiful supply of clean, cold water for rinsing. The process is completed by hanging the clothes upon the bushes for drying.

We found one of the springs of so high a temperature that we could hold our hand in the water but for about one second. This spring we think would have cooked an egg in a few minutes, but as we had none with us we could not tell eggs-actly. But what was most incredible to us, until we had tried the experiment, was, that we could drink the water, fresh from the fountain, without any uneasy sensation. The taste we found to be very similar to that of water in which eggs have been tinched, or boiled without the shell on.

Having satisfied our curiosity by a survey and examination of all, we returned to the bath-house, which, at present, is but a rude, open log-cabin, with two apartments, in each of which is a rude bathing trough, supplied from one of the springs. Having filled one of the troughs about two-thirds full from the spring, we carried some six or eight bucket-fuls of cold water from the creek, to facilitate the cooling process. We then waited some twenty minutes, until, as we thought, it had sufficiently cooled to be pretty comfortable, when we plunged in, neck and heels. We have heard of the blowing of porpoises and the floundering of alligators, but the whole aquatic and amphibious families would have scampered in astonishment to have seen our floundering to get out of that scrape, (as it had well-nigh been literally,) whistling like a locomotive and scarlet as a boiled lobster. But determined not to be balked, and desiring to take the bath at the highest possible temperature we could bear, we repeated the process, again and again, at short intervals, until we felt all aglow, when we wrapped ourselves in a blanket and sat down to await the final issue.

Soon the perspiration was breaking forth, and "counting its beads" in the greatest profusion all over us. We felt first a "delicious languor," then an overpowering all-overishness, and lastly, a re-juvenating elasticity of body and spirit. If such were the influences on a healthy man, we thought, who can calculate the benefits to an invalid?

Rude as are the accommodations at these springs, their medical virtues have been sufficiently tested to prove them of a high order, in some of the most stubborn cases. When the facilities of transportation to and from the States shall be made what they ought to be, a trip to the Las Vegas Springs, from any part of the Union, we are satisfied will be of immensely more benefit to invalids of every kind, than a hundred trips to the sunny South. The purity of the atmosphere, the wild and picturesque scenery around the springs, and the invigorating exercise of rambling over the mountains or riding over the wide-extended plains, all will contribute greatly to enhance the value of these springs, and make them, at some future day the Bethshams of the nation.

How you talk! The Austin (Texas,) State Gazette relieves itself of a little harmless gas, as follows:

The Santa Fe (New Mexico) Gazette, in noticing the proposition of General Hamilton to sell another strip of Texas territory to the United States, says:

"The fact is, Texas, like all spoiled brats, seems to think that she has a special claim upon the Government for any indulgence she may see fit to ask—and a perfect right to swindle to the full extent of her ability."

We expect the editor of the Santa Fe Gazette is one of the gang of abolition agitators whom the people of Texas intended to have hung without ceremony, if they had been driven to the necessity of asserting their claim to Santa Fe by force of arms. He can talk bravely now that he is out of our clutches."

One of the definitions which Webster gives of "clutches" is, "the paws or talons of a rapacious animal." Our neighbor evidently understands the proper use of terms, or else he has been remarkably fortunate in selecting at random, for he could not have found a more appropriate. Well, as the animals did not get their rapacity satisfied in New Mexico, we "reckon" they did not want for victims at home. We suppose pent-up indignation found some alleviation in flogging women and selling their babies.

But we are not disposed to take the "rapacious animal" of the Austin Gazette as a specimen of all Texans. We are aware that the "lone star" was originally peopled by rather a "rapacious" brood, but we had supposed that the advancing light of civilization and Christianity had driven off most of the old stock, and humanized such as remained. We are still charitably disposed to think that, to a great extent, this is true. There are in morals as in politics, some "old rogues" whose natures are susceptible of no improvement, and we suppose our neighbor of the Austin Gazette is one of this class.

Well, as the "lone star" was the ass kicked him, considering the source, it is scarcely worth minding. We should like to know, however, whether the "animal" of the Austin Gazette carries the New Mexican ear-mark!

Our Literary Exchanges.

We have for some time past been in the receipt of several excellent Literatures, which, with two or three exceptions, we have not appropriately noticed. We shall therefore clear up our table this week.

The New York Dutchman: Griffin and Farnsworth, 19 Berkman St. N. Y.—Full of fun and frolic, "wise saws and modern instances;" worth more as an anti-dispeptic, than its subscription price. We think, however, the Dutch is about as redundant in lightness as many of its contemporaries are in heaviness.

The Gothamite: Publishing office at 7 Theatre Alley, N. Y.; address A. Morrell, 25 Park Row.—Always welcomed to our table, as we suppose it is to the tables of all its subscribers.

Morrell's Miscellany, which, by the way, we have not received, a Monthly, containing 176 pages, price \$1.50 per annum, may be had at the same address.

The Sachem: Thomas Picton, 100 Nassau St. N. Y.—The Sachem is of the Native American school, and although we do not agree with it in this, we do agree that it is one of the very best of our literary exchanges. Price \$2 pr. annum.

The Musical World & Times: Dyer & Willis, 257 Broadway, N. Y.—To the lovers of that finest of the fine arts music, the best recommendation of the Musical World & Times would be its perusal. Each number contains (weekly) 16 pages, in which there are 4 pages of choice music, giving, within a year, over 200 pages of choice music, selected by the most competent judges.

trap, stores. In is worth, to to rs and lovers sic, more than e or three if it is Price, \$3.00

Temperance. D. J. Snow, Saint Louis. We could expect Snow—since any thing else than streams of water. We commend the Balm to our Temperance friends, but it is best still more valuable to those who are not temperate.

The Columbian and Great West. W. B. Shattuck, Cincinnati, O.—A large and excellent literary weekly; a successful demonstration of the capacity of the West to compete with the older Eastern States, in cheap and valuable literature. Cheap as the cheapest.

Cohen's Advertiser: We have received the second number of this neat little sheet, published monthly, by our Philadelphia friend, S. E. Cohen, 197 Walnut St. The Advertiser is valuable to those who would keep themselves "posted up" in business affairs.

The New Era: G. Bailey, Washington, D. C.—Although especially devoted to anti-slavery cause, the Era stands on the front rank of the literary papers of the nation. (Some of the most powerful works of the age, now widely circulated and read on both sides of the Atlantic, originally appeared in the columns of the Era.) Dr. Bailey understands that a world newspaper ought to be a standard in bringing news up to the standard.

A small detachment of new recruits from the States, arrived in this city (the enter part being left, we believe, under command of Capt. Steel. These recruits, however, are in the fort, in August, with 40 horses, and arrived at Fort Union with ten. We should like to know whether they died of anomy—a disease that has been more fatal to any stock in the Territory, than the cholera or botts.

Herrick sends us the "Moor" which he requests us, as his cousin (the Moor) would "stick up a little," and "be a good boy" and "be a good boy." We have endeavored to do so as well as we could, and preserve the original!

STANZA FOR THE TIMES.

ATB—Barial of Moore.

Not a drum was heard, nor a bugle note— Not a sword was permitted to rattle, But straight out behind stuck the tail of each coat. As we fled from the field of battle.

And there lay the red chief, looking his rest Where welcome sleep had bound him; His nostrung bow lay in his breast, And his brave harp lay strown around him.

But a noise came on the midnight air, And we started and gazed around us, While straight out behind stuck every hair, For we thought that heumps had found us.

Hurriedly onward we spurred our nags, Lest the red-skin and his should find us, While wallet, and knapsack, and each spare, We left in our flight behind us.

Not a drum was heard, nor a bugle note— Not a sword was permitted to rattle, But a blane was made by the tail of each coat, As we fled from the field of battle.

And should we avenge, as we hope we shall, To get safely home to our mothers, With our heroic deeds we'll draw tears from each "gal."

And amongst our infantile brothers. Santa Fe, Nov. 6, 1852.

THE VERMONT ELECTION.—Why don't the abolitionists raise a racket about the Vermont election? They have had clear weather, favorable winds, plenty of tracts, abundance of cold water, and prodigious gunpowder popularity in their Presidential candidate, yet the recent election in Vermont seems to have been lame, flat and unprofitable. From beginning to end, the only actual result developed in that contest is the decline of the abolitionists: proper, the whigs or socialists remaining in spite of the prodigious popularity of gunpowder precisely as they have been for the last few years.

The truth is, that the election in Vermont, an every recent election, and every recent assembling only go to prove the truth of the assertion, what we have made all along, that the present Presidential contest is one of the flattest, the stalest, the coldest, and the simplest, that ever took place during the last thirty years. Military heroes are entirely at a discount. Military popularity is very nearly exploded. If a hero could be caught who had piled up locusts of several millions, human beings in his hundred battles, we doubt whether even he would cast a single ripple on the political surface of the broad Pacific ocean of public opinion in the present contest in the country.—N. Y. Herald.

A tremendous mass meeting and barbecue is being held at Oakland Woods, near this city, (Oakland) to celebrate the anniversary of Scott's victory into the city of Mexico. It is estimated that full twenty thousand people are present. Numerous speeches have been made, and much enthusiasm prevails. A grand display of fire-works takes place to night, Sep. 14, '52.

Governments are generally many years behind of their time in legislation. A like process is prevailing with all.